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June 22, 2016

United States Government
Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis
Victoria Rutson, Director
395 E Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

RE: Docket No. FD 35952

Dear Director Rutson:

I am writing today to express my opposition to the Great Lakes Basin Transportation, Inc. proposal to construct and operate a rail line in Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin.

The rail line route as presented cuts diagonally across Grundy and LaSalle Counties in the 38th Senate District and the right-of-way will remove thousands of acres of prime farm land from production. The principal who has been speaking to land owners has asserted that the rail line will be beneficial to owners in transporting farm commodities to market. However the negatives of crossing farms, cutting drainage lines, a 200 foot right-of-way, land locked fields, and not wanting to pay a fair price for the land taken out of production far out way any benefits.

The environmental issues of soils, water, air quality, noise, hazardous waste spills and plant and animal displacement will further add to the reasons not to support this project.

As I understand the task that the Office of Environmental Analysis has is to determine that this project will be and have beneficial reasons to allow this project to continue.

When preparing the Environmental Impact Statement please consider all the above negatives to the communities and farms in the 38th Senate District.

Sincerely,

Senator, 38th District



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